

**Indiana PHHS Block Grant Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**June 9, 2014 – 2-3:30 p.m.**  
**Robert O. Yoho Board Room, Indiana State Department of Health**

Kristin Adams, Block Grant Coordinator for the ISDH called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. EDT, and asked that introductions be made around the room.

**Members Attending in Person**

Kristin Adams (Health Officer Proxy; BG Coordinator)  
Katie Gatz, Trauma and Injury Prevention Director, ISDH  
Linda Stemnock, ERS, Epidemiologist, ISDH  
Champ Thomascutty, Chronic Disease, ISDH  
Gretchen Martin, Child Fatality Director, ISDH  
Ann Alley, Chronic Disease, Rural Health, Primary Care Director, ISDH  
Krista Click, Food Protection Program, ISDH  
Sarah Burkholder, TB Program Director, ISDH  
Jordan Williams, PHPPM, Intern, ISDH  
Teresa Watson, Recording, ISDH  
Danielle Patterson, Indiana Health Association  
Tracy Spencer, IU Health – Methodist  
Carolyn Snyder, School Nurses Association

**Members not in Attendance**

Scott Gilliam  
Art Logsdon  
Pamela Pontones  
Craig Mormon  
Phil Stafford

**Introduction to the PHHS Block Grant**

Kristin thanked everyone for attending and began the meeting by explaining the requirements of the grant under the federal law. Two (2) meetings of the Advisory Committee must take place prior to the public hearing which is scheduled for next week.

She also stated that the grant and work plan must include the mandates in the Health People 2020 document.

This block grant, she noted, is one of the few existing infrastructure grants still available and has been in existence for over 30 years. CDC maintains this grant for the purpose of maintaining infrastructure for the states.

There are some stipulations with the Prevention and Public Health Fund – it needs to be more transparent. If more than \$25k will be spent, it would be shared on a Transparency Portal.

Kristin explained that ISDH grant is generally \$1.1 million but this year the agency has received nearly \$2.5 million in grant funds. More ideas and more creative ideas are needed in this project at this point as she explained the addition of the Child Fatality Program, the Food Protection Program, and the TB Program to the grant.

*Child Fatality Review – Gretchen Martin, Director*

Gretchen noted that the \$75k in funding requests would allow for 3 training sessions around the state to train investigators on how to better investigate child deaths across the state that are not medically expected deaths.

Carolyn Snyder agreed with this proposal and use of funds.

*Chronic Disease Prevention and Control – Champ Thomaskutty*

Champ stated they will be using their grant funding to strengthen current programs where things are not working – cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer and a pilot project for medication management in the hopes of avoiding adverse events.

He also stated funding will be used to assist individuals with chronic and multiple chronic diseases who don't have proper care.

Funds will also be used for community level management and to enhance data capacity at the ISDH.

Danielle Patterson agreed with this use of funding and noted they are utilizing funding for database and online services and management.

Carolyn Snyder agreed with this proposal and use of funds and has made recommendations of trainings and surveillance that needs to be completed.

Tracy Spencer felt the program ideas were great.

*Trauma and Injury Prevention Program – Katie Gatz, Director*

Katie noted the three (3) areas her division is focusing on at this time:

- (1) Reduce unintentional deaths
- (2) Trauma Center Care Access
- (3) Reduce hospital and ED visits from people who experience falls and to investigate falls prevention. IU Health is leading this group and will travel the state once again, as they have for the past 2 years to educate hospital staff and support the “in-the-process” hospitals and help them better deal with falls.

Katie continued some of the grant funding will be used to help support the EMS data registry and to continue to integrate data from the EMS and the Trauma Registries in order to analyze the data and outcomes and provide feedback to hospitals that transmit the data initially.

Tracy Spencer echoed Katie's comments noting falls are bad and the need is there to get the education done to help protect people from falls.

Katie concluded with information regarding a new grant opportunity that will assist in the management of a new national registry to collect data on violent deaths which is being funded and run by the CDC. This database would link all data sets, where, when and why. Katie noted that the policy is currently being developed and the CDC will give anywhere from 18-29 states grants for this project and Indiana will apply.

Under the heading of "Public Health Performance Infrastructure" Kristin noted the Food Protection Program had been added to the work plan and Krista Click of the Food Protection Program staff attended the meeting to discuss CodePal and explain it to the group. The ISDH plus the 93 local health departments around the state manage all food establishments within the borders of Indiana. Currently CodePal is used by the ISDH and 7 county health departments and the funding from the grant will assist the Food Protection Program in bringing more LHDs on board with the use of CodePal.

This system will also be helpful in tracking food borne illnesses and outbreaks around the state and assist in managing the data in a more efficient manner.

The Food Protection Program is currently working on program standards.

*TB Program, Sarah Burkholder, Director*

The goal is to increase the real time information on tuberculosis drugs prescribed, real time information on DOT, missed doses, and held doses through electronic systems.

Sarah noted that medication management is a project that is in need of completion. This system enables the tracking of medication i.e., when taken, when not taken, why not taken, etc. The contact information is searchable and assists with the tracking of infected individuals and enables the Program to treat patients better.

Carolyn Snyder noted there has been more surveillance in school cases.

Tracy Spencer had no comments.

Danielle Patterson asked how many active cases of TB are in being tracked in Indiana at this time. Sarah noted there is generally always between 94-102 cases being worked at one time. Sarah did note, there is no method at the present time to let the ISDH know where the new cases are occurring.

It was also noted that the complexity of the disease is growing and foreign cases are being handled which takes a new set of skills for the different cultures. Sarah also noted a rise in cases among the homeless population.

#### Workforce Development:

The goal is to increase training opportunities to the public health workforce in Indiana through the new learning management system IN-TRAIN. This system is part of the Public Health Foundation's TRAIN application.

Additional accreditation opportunities include quality improvement trainings for local health departments and performance management training. The continued development of the [www.IndianaIndicators.org](http://www.IndianaIndicators.org) data site for local health departments and non-profit hospitals to have data for community health assessments and improvement plans will include more data, trend data, and more drill down capacity where possible.

Carolyn Snyder – all good, no additional comments.

Tracy Spencer – very good.

Danielle Patterson–Very good.

Kristin noted the Public Hearing will be next week and corrections to the Work Plan will be made prior to that time.

And, it is her hope that the grant will be submitted by the end of next week (June 20, 2014).

She adjourned the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

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